

Annals of Eugenics

A Journal of Human Genetics
Vol. XIII. Part 4. April 1947

Sensory thresholds for solutions of phenyl-thio-carbamide.
—D. S. FALCONER.

Note on the calculation of the frequencies of *Rhesus* allelomorphs.—R. A. FISHER.

A myopathic family.—J. E. H. SAWYER.

Some notes on discrimination.—L. S. PENROSE.

A factor analysis of body measurements for British adult males.—CYRIL BURT and CHARLOTTE BANKS.

An extension of the least-squares method for statistical estimation.—D. D. KOSAMBI.

The mutation rate of the gene for hæmophilia, and its segregation ratios in males and females.—J. B. S. HALDANE.

Some examples of discrimination.—CEDRIC A. B. SMITH.

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The new courtship patterns are concerned with the need to express the nascent interest in heterosexual affairs, and to adapt the sexual urge to the changing culture; and the need for direction in selecting a mate. Those patterns farthest removed from the mores of society alter the most. The moral code, relating to sex, is that of the last century, and actual practices are quite different.

Courtship differs from other institutions on some points. For instance there are no patterns for entrance into courtship. It lacks organizations of its own to promote its goals, and ceremonies to supplement its activities. It also possesses little control of its material aspects.

Many courtship patterns conflict with the components of culture with which they deal. There are problems of compatibility and consistency, and the causes seem to be the dependence of courtship on other institutions, and the fact that it is still in the process of development. New patterns may be accepted much more rapidly in the future.

JANE ROBERTSON-RITCHIE.

Aging—A Family Problem.—By W. R. Stanford.—The increase in average span of life has increased the problems of therapeutic medicine. The chief problem is to keep the person healthy in old age. The solutions are many and varied, and must take effect throughout life and even before birth, starting with some degree of application of our present knowledge of eugenics; then care during childhood, especially removal of focal infection, is needed. The stresses of adolescence need care, and venereal disease and tuberculosis are best treated by social prophylactic measures. Fifty years plus is usually regarded as the real aging period, when, in addition to the infectious diseases, one is more subject to the cardiovascular diseases, to carcinoma and to diabetes. Dietary deficiencies may occur, either through inability to afford a full diet, or through a finicky appetite, or through physiological inability to absorb the food substances. Various psychoses may intervene, such as

the senile dementia of arterio-sclerosis or the "lost" state of mind that supervenes when a previously happy person is jerked out of a reasonably happy existence by the break-up of his home.

The medical practitioner should investigate all aspects of the patient's living conditions, including his hobbies, and advise alteration where necessary; as Osler said, "live in the present, do not carry yesterday's troubles over into to-day, and do not borrow tomorrow's troubles." Examples of suitable occupations are woodcarving, reading, fishing, golf, draughts, chess and painting.

Finally it is suggested that physical education should be carried on throughout the span of life.

December 1946, Vol. 25, No. 2—Ernest R. Groves and His Work.—By Howard W. Odum.—The Managing Editor of *Social Forces* has written a short informal appreciation of the work of Professor Groves (Professor of Sociology, and Research Professor in the Institute for Research in Social Science in the University of North Carolina), who died on August 29th, 1946. Professor Groves was editor of the Department on Marriage and the Family in *Social Forces*. Dr. Odum refers in particular to the emphasis that Professor Groves always placed on the need for a course in preparation for marriage; which course, largely owing to his efforts, has become a conventional part of the programme of American Colleges. Credit is also due to Professor Groves for his exposition of the family as a social institution. This will be carried a step further by the posthumous publication of his book *The Contemporary American Family*, since this work, together with his previously published *The American Woman*, are substantial contributions to the understanding of American society. In all his work "he never lost sight of the social values of the individual."

A bibliography of his work is published, including the titles of books published prior to 1927.

D. R.-R.

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liberty we and all nations still allow our criminals, or most of them, to reproduce their kind indefinitely, and so endanger the whole future of mankind through the probable breeding of war criminals, who may once more climb to power, in one country or another, as happened so recently and so disastrously in Europe.

Would it not be worth while to make a thorough

study, wherever possible, of the ancestry of the German and other war criminals, and their antecedents? Such an enquiry might throw much new light on the basic causes of modern wars, and on how to prevent them, in future generations.

C. WICKSTEED ARMSTRONG.

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MARCH 1946

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